



DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION AND REHABILITATION

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County Executive

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Director

PRRS Quarterly Chief's Report
November 18, 2010 to February 9, 2011

Highlights

- 1. County Council Accepts Federal Award to PRRS (2/1):** The County Council voted unanimously to accept the federal grant received by PRRS. DOCR Director Arthur Wallenstein provided an overview of the grant to the County Council in formal session, and Council members complimented the Department and PRRS for aggressively seeking funds to bolster a programmatic model which uses community-based providers. As announced at the last CAC meeting, PRRS received a federal award under the Second Chance Act to develop a one-year employment-related computer skill training program that will be offered to all PRRS residents. Under the grant award, Montgomery College will provide three levels of computer instruction in a brand new computer lab at the Pre-Release Center, and students will receive employment and transition support from grant-funded positions with Workforce Solutions Group which operates the County's One-Stop Career Centers. Since November, the College instructor has been hired, and construction work has begun to develop the 15-station computer training lab. During the daytime hours, the lab will be used by PRRS residents seeking employment. The Department is current pursuing an opportunity to apply for additional federal funds to extend the program's duration.
- 2. PRRS Emergency Preparedness (12/14):** DOCR Director Arthur Wallenstein led a carefully planned desktop exercise at the Pre-Release Center to rehearse and discuss the Division's response to one of four scenarios where an individual with a gun entered the building. Twenty-eight individuals were present including three representatives from police (Commander of 1st District; Special Operations, and first District Officer) and three representatives from fire and rescue. The exercise highlighted five basic procedures that are in policies: 1. Preserve life as the primary consideration; 2. Fully cooperate and maintain calm with the threatening person; 3. Call 911; 4. Arrange to "Shelter in place" for residents, volunteers, staff, and contractors; and 5. Need to ensure operation/command center. Deputy Chief of Security and Facility James Shannon is following up with a number of policy and practice changes that were identified in the exercise.

Program Developments

- 1. Ghanaian Official at PRRS:** Mr. Charles Ameyaw, Deputy Superintendent of Prisons at the Prisons Headquarters in Accra, will spend six weeks learning about PRRS by shadowing staff members and attending meetings. He is a Hubert H.

Humphrey Fellowship program participant at the Washington College of Law at American University, and was referred to us by an official at the U.S. Department of Justice.

- 2. Winning Fathers (1/11):** HHS's Winning Fathers program at the Pre-Release Center was recognized by the County Executive and County Council for its accomplishment in receiving a national achievement award from the National Association of Counties for the quality of its five-year program focused on helping residents improve parenting and relationship skills.
- 3. Welcome Home Program (WHP):** WHP has 39 matched mentors and mentees (23 of whom are meeting in the community, post-release), and 3 volunteers who provide invaluable support to the PRC in various ways (writing resumes, providing support in the CRC and teaching a job interview preparation class). In addition, 6 mentees are waiting to be assigned to an appropriate mentor. An orientation session for prospective mentors is scheduled for Monday, February 28th from 6:30-8:30 pm at PRC. Some highlights of the program included: a group of mentees and mentors volunteered together to serve the homeless on November 21st at Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church in Bethesda; WHP assembled 1,000 Reentry Kits on December 4th (each kit includes a \$15 metro pass, soap, a razor, toothpaste, toothbrush, a Bible, a pen, notepad, washcloth, a resource list, backpack, deodorant, chap stick and socks); Dr. Donald McCrabb, Welcome Home Program consultant and Learning Leader with the Catholic Leadership Institute, will facilitate a series of training sessions in 2011 (February 12, March 5 and April 2). The topics include preparing mentors for mentoring, improving listening skills, responding to mentoring and developing more effective communication techniques. Below is a quote from an email that WHP Coordinator Melissa George received:

All is very well and better than I expected. Life is truly a God given gift that some times we take for granted. As I walked out PRC, a feeling of ease and a voice inside of me told me that I am not an inmate any more, that I m a free man today. So life is good today, even the water in the shower seems a little gentler LOL. I thank you for bringing Bill [his mentor] into my life. He has being a light that helped me weather the storm. "

- 4. New Staff Meeting Format:** PRRS adopted a new staff meeting in 2011 to promote staff communication while facilitating the exploration of programmatic, security, facility, and policy issues in greater depth. Instead of weekly general staff meetings of the same format, PRRS now runs one general staff meeting, one programmatic meeting, one security meeting, and one policy and procedure meeting each month. All these meetings will be held on Thursdays between 3:30pm and 5:00pm.

Visits/Events/Meetings

1. 2/10/11: Visit to PRC by Professor Les Kaplan's American University's class Introduction to Law and Society class (Professor Kaplan is also the Director of the Housing Opportunities Commission in Montgomery County).
2. 2/9/11: PRRS and MCGEO held the first quarterly Labor Management Relations Committee meetings in 2011.
3. 2/8/11: Division Chief Stefan LoBuglio attended a brief meeting on the release of a publication by the Council of State Government titled "The National Summit on Justice Reinvestment and Public Safety. Addressing Recidivism, Crime, and Corrections Spending."
4. 1/19-20/11: Work Release Coordinators Joyce Reimherr; Reentry Assessment Specialist Scott Gunnison, Case Manager Tyrone Alexander, and Principal Administrative Aid Patsy Burns attended training provided by the Federal Bureau of Prisons in Annapolis Junction.
5. 1/15/11: PRRS hosted a meeting involving County Council staff members, an OMB representative, and a representative from the Department of Economic Development to brief them on the new Second Chance Act grant program. DOCR Director Wallenstein attended the meeting along with PRRS staff, the grant's program partners, and the invited guests.
6. 1/14/11: Case Manager Douglas Ingram attended a symposium at George Mason University titled "Undoing Mass Incarceration" that was organized by Professor Faye Taxman. Senator Webb spoke about the need to mobilize a commission to review all criminal justice policy. Also, University of MD researcher Kiminori Nakamura presented his research on the minimal added risk of hiring individuals with criminal history if they have remained crime free for several years.
7. 1/13/11: Drug Court's Director Samantha Lyons met with Deputy Chief Patricia Braun, Assessment and Quality Services Manager Tina Michaels, and Stefan LoBuglio to solicit feedback about PRRS/Drug Court's close working relationship in preparation for Drug Court's annual review. Much credit was given to PRRS and Drug Court Case Managers and particularly Cynthia Boyd for developing a strong partnership.
8. 1/7/11: Division Chief Stefan LoBuglio participated in a review organized by the Council of State Government to determine the type of technical assistance they will provide to federally-funded Second Chance Act reentry programs that address substance abuse and co-occurring issues.
9. Early January: Work Release Coordinator Joyce Reimherr participated in a Webinar that was focused on job development services for those with criminal histories.
10. 1/5/11: Prison Outreach Ministries Executive Director Christine Tyler organized a meeting at PRC for two representatives of the O'Neal Foundation who are considering funding WHP. Founder Rev. Michael Bryant, WHP Melissa George, and Stefan LoBuglio also joined the meeting.

11. 12/18/10: Work Release Coordinators Joyce Reimherr and Hillel Raskas attended the Montgomery Housing Partnership Circle of Builders meeting which discussed the Purple Line and lessons from the development of White Flint. Hillel and Joyce met attendees and reminded them that PRRS residents are ready to work and are also interested in affordable housing.
12. 12/16/10: Steven Devlin from Renewal, Inc., a provider of transitional housing in the Pittsburgh area, visited PRRS.
13. 12/15/10: PRRS Holiday party.
14. 12/15/10: PRRS hosted a planning meeting among its program partners on the Second Chance Act grant program. Representatives from Montgomery College and Workforce Solutions Group joined PRRS/DOCR staff members Hillel Raskas, Patricia Braun, Brenda Sims, Mohammad Rajabtavosi, and Stefan LoBuglio.
15. 12/10/10: Grace Arnall, Executive Director of the Offender Aid and Restoration (OAR) of Arlington County Virginia visited PRC to look at its programmatic model. OAR provides services to individuals with criminal histories in Northern Virginia.
16. 12/9/10: Several representatives of Volunteers of America visited PRRS to discuss possible collaborative efforts to support transitional housing in the county for those with criminal histories.
17. 11/30/10: CAC Co-Chair Diane Scott-Jones attended a forum titled "Are Criminal Background Checks Misleading Employers?" sponsored by the Job Opportunities Task Force (JOTF), Baltimore, and the Re-Entry of Ex-Offenders Clinic at U. Maryland Law School. A one-page summary of the forum is located at: <http://www.jotf.org/Forums/2010Forums/November10/tabid/181/Default.aspx>
18. 11/19/10: PRRS Intern Shawnice Williams organized a group of residents to help set up the Executive Office Building cafeteria for a fundraising event sponsored by the Muslim Foundation of Montgomery County.

Personnel

1. Departures

- Former PRRS Case Manager Andrew Lautar took a new position as Case Manager with the Department's Pre-Trial Services. Andrew came to PRRS four years ago as an intern, was hired as a Resident Supervisor, and then selected for a Case Manager. In his new position, he helps run the Department's Intervention Program for Substance Abusers.
- Licensed Practical Nurse Olivia Escobar-Guzman provided excellent medical services to PRRS clients for several months while the Division attempted to fill a vacancy for its Nurse Practitioner position. Both Andrew and Olivia were recognized and feted during the PRRS holiday party.

2. Arrivals

- Resident Supervisor Forrest Pettigrew joined PRRS on November 21, 2010. He brings 15-years of experience with the parole and probation office for the

Virginia Department of Corrections where he rose to be the Deputy Chief Probation Officer. In 1989-92, Forrest was a correctional officer at the Montgomery County Detention Center. In more recent years, Forrest provided assistance to students in Special Education in Prince George's County, and also developed a management consulting business focused on core competencies, and change management. His educational background includes a Bachelors of Arts in the Administration of Justice from the University of Pittsburgh and a Master's of Art in Divinity Studies from Howard University.

- Case Manager Clara Cantave joined PRRS on December 6, 2010, and is equipped with a Master of Social work from Florida International University, a Certification in Substance Abuse Treatment, and language skills in French and Creole. Most recently, she worked as a DUI/DWI Treatment Coordinator with Comprehensive Treatment Services in Maryland, and also has experience providing therapeutic and case management services to women who were victims of sexual assault and/or who were homeless and had serious mental health and co-occurring disorders.
- Case Manager Douglas Ingram joined PRRS on December 6, 2010, and brings 27 years of experience with the Federal Bureau of Prisons in United States Penitentiaries (USP) in Lewisburg, Pa and Atlanta Ga. His most recent position was with Probation and Parole in Virginia. In his correctional career, Douglas has trained extensively on Cognitive Behavioral Models and has developed a significant expertise in Gang Intelligence. He has a Master's Degree from the University of Cincinnati's Criminal Justice program.
- Registered Nurse Marcia Durant has been temporarily assigned to PRRS since December 15, 2010. RN Durant has extensive training and experience providing medical services to incarcerated individuals, and at PRRS, handles all sick call requests from our residents. She works in conjunction with the Department's physician and psychiatrist in coordinating medical care.
- Case Manager Stephen Carter joined PRRS on January 17, 2011 and brings to our program nearly 30 years of direct service experience and organizational leadership in programs that have served some of the most vulnerable individuals in our society including the homeless, immigrants, and abused and neglected children. Bi-lingual and bi-cultural in Spanish, Stephen founded and directed a 100-bed rehabilitation facility for homeless men in DC (McKenna House), directing CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) in Prince Williams County, and has three decades of work in religious communities including the past 10 years as Executive Director of a \$1 million program in the Sacred Heart Community in Washington D.C.

3. Training

- On December 22, 2010 the County's EEO Compliance Office Angela Washington led a mandated county training on sexual and workplace harassment issues for PRRS staff.
- Deputy Chief James Shannon was appointed an adjunct professor at UMBC/Shady Grove and is teaching Social Welfare Policy in the School of Social Work.

Facility

- Office Changes:** Several staff members will move office locations at the end of February as part of an effort to improve operational efficiencies and overall working environments.

Population Served

	November	December	January
Local ADP	98.5	99.1	107.1
Federal ADP	28.3	26.2	19.1
State ADP	N/A	N/A	N/A
Total APD	142.0	144.1	141.6
PRC ADP	126.8	125.3	126.3
Home Confinement ADP	15.2	18.9	12.8

Employment Rate

Work Release Key Performance Indicators												
Snapshot February 3, 2011												
	Employed							Unemployed				
Unit	Wed 12am Count	Outside Employment	Inside Employment (Footnote 2)	Approved non-Work Placement (Footnote 3)	Total	Outside Work Employed %	Work Release Engaged %	Placement < than 21 Days	Placement > than 21 Days	Total	Unemployment Rate	Unemployment Rate Net New Arrivals
1	10	6	0	1	7	60.0%	70.0%	2	1	3	30.0%	12.5%
2	42	21	4	0	25	50.0%	59.5%	6	11	17	40.5%	30.6%
3	48	25	5	0	30	52.1%	62.5%	11	7	18	37.5%	18.9%
4	47	24	6	1	31	51.1%	66.0%	7	9	16	34.0%	22.5%
Total	147	76	15	2	93	51.7%	63.3%	26	28	54	36.7%	23.1%

Footnote 1: Data collection on Wednesday using midnight count and inclusive of releasees later that day. Data entered in green cells only

Footnote 2: Individuals are assigned to inside worker status for programmatic and security reasons.

Footnote 3: Individuals approved due to medical/disability/retirement factors

Escapes/Court Hearings: No escapes to report in Calendar Year 2011

- Escapee Kevon O'Neal (12/7):** This former resident escaped from PRRS on 12/7 after leaving the PRC without authorization. He was apprehended on 12/10 by a team of deputies from the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office. The Division Chief will attend a Resolution Conference scheduled for February 14, and will support a vigorous prosecution of this charge.
- Escapee Thomas Taylor (6/19):** This former resident escaped from PRRS on 6/19 after he left PRC on an approved pass. He was caught shop lifting at a store and resisted arrest. On December 28, he was sentenced to 15 years in State prison.